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COMIC SHOP NEWS
THE FEARLESS
PLUS SDCC NEWS HIGHLIGHTS!

San Diego Con News Extravaganza

The 2011 San Diego Comic-Con came and went over the July 21st-July 24th weekend—and as always, there was a flood of news from almost every publisher in the industry. For those of you who weren't able to make the con, here's a rundown of the news highlights, leading off with a major original graphic novel initiative from Marvel; after that, the news is organized by publisher.

Marvel's Time of the Season

If you know your Marvel history, you're undoubtedly aware that the 50th anniversary of the Fantastic Four's first appearance is rapidly approaching. If you've never read those early stories by *Stan Lee & Jack Kirby*, you can still enjoy them courtesy of Marvel's ***Essentials*** and ***Masterworks Omnibus*** lines—but a lot of newer readers arent attracted to those old tales for the same reason that a lot of contemporary filmgoers aren't attracted to movies from the 1950s and 1960s. Styles and techniques change, and what was once edgy and innovative is considered by some to be outdated and quaint.

Early next year, Marvel will introduce readers to some of those classic concepts in a contemporary format via their ***Season One*** line of original graphic novels. These books, produced by modern creators, present elements of the classic storylines, updated in an original hardcover graphic novel.

"We're hoping to introduce folks who have never read any of these characters to these characters in this format, and also provide an interesting and illuminating story for people who have read a lot of Fantastic Four and Daredevil," *Tom Brevoort*, Marvel's senior vice president and executive editor, told ***USA Today***.

"If you want to dip your toe in the water and find out the essence of what Marvel is all about, here is a nice place for you to start in big, sizable, meaty chunks."

The first four books in the series are:

- ***Fantastic Four: Season One*** by *Rob Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa & David Marquez* (February).
- ***X-Men: Season One*** by *Dennis Hopeless & Jamie McKelvie* (March).
- ***Daredevil: Season One*** by *Antony Johnston & Weillington Alves* (April).
- ***Spider-Man: Season One*** by *Cullen Bunn & Neil Edwards* (May).

"We tended to gravitate toward newer, younger writers in the field," Brevoort added. "They have not been so far around the block that they're stuck down either by their own tropes or by the tropes of the medium."

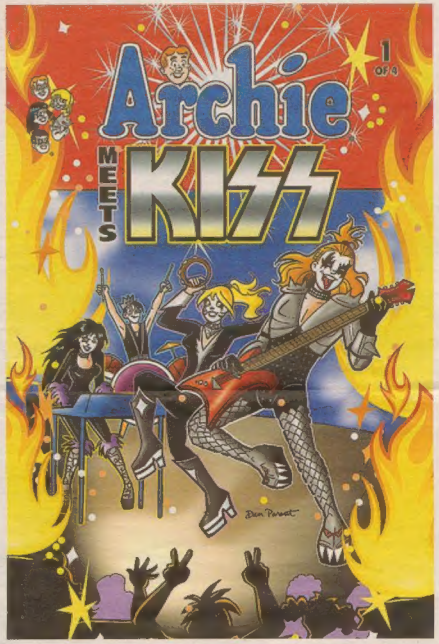
Unlike the ***Ultimate*** line, ***Season One*** is not a reinvention of Marvel's iconic characters. ""Everything you know about them, everything that's existed for the last fifty years still exists and is still there," Brevoort said. "These are individually new stories, even though they've got bits and pieces of old and formative origin stuff in and around them, as well."

Not only will the storytelling and art reflect more contemporary styles, but some elements, such as technology and cultural references, will be updated for modern readers.

"A contemporary reader will find more to their liking hopefully and more to their speed than simply going back and re-reading the early *Stan Lee* and *Jack Kirby* and *Steve Ditko*," Brevoort said. "Although we welcome you to do that, as well."

Archie

•Now *here's* a team-up that no one saw coming: KISS's *Gene Simmons & Paul Stanley* are working with Archie Comics on a four-part "Archie Meets KISS" story that begins in November's ***Archie #627***. *Alex Segura* writes the story arc, which will feature art by *Dan Parent*. "We're ecstatic to team up with Gene, Paul, and the entire KISS Army for this project," said Archie Comics Co-CEO *Jon Goldwater*. "KISS is such a huge part of Americana and that goes hand-in-hand with Archie and friends. We're honored and excited to help bring KISS back to comics in a huge way."



Even better as far as KISS fans are concerned, this is the first of *two* major KISS projects in the works, as IDW has also landed the rights to produce new KISS comics. "KISS has a comic book history that spans almost four decades…but it was time to do things better than ever before," said KISS founder *Gene Simmons*. "What's bigger than *two different companies* sharing the KISS license? Archie and IDW will tell two unique and in-your-face tales of KISS, and we're thrilled to be working with them on these projects."

"This is a unique arrangement but one that we're proud to be a part of. IDW – like Archie – know their audience and create high-quality and mass-appeal product," *Jon Goldwater* added. "We're looking forward to bringing two great KISS comic series out in the

Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

coming months that'll appeal to the biggest audience possible." No word as to whether either comic will contain KISS blood.

•Archie's recently-introduced gay teen Kevin Keller will become a part of the alternative-future series ***Life With Archie—The Married Life,*** where he will be portrayed as married with a same-sex spouse.

•Kevin Keller will also graduate to his own ongoing series written and drawn by Keller creator *Dan Parent*.

•The formerly Li'l Jinx will be getting her own comic, ***Jinx,*** focusing on the character as she grows up and deals with high school life.

Avatar

•*Garth Ennis & Mike Wolfer* will launch ***Stitched*** in November; the series spins out of Ennis's direct-to-DVD horror-war film set in Afghanistan, where survivors of a helicopter crash confront an ancient supernatural menace.

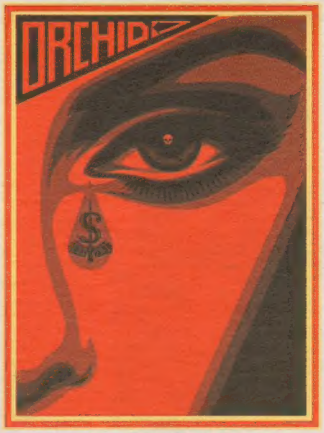
•2012 will see the debut of ***Crossed: Badlands,*** an ongoing biweekly series that launches with a story arc by *Garth Ennis & Jacen Burrows*.

•*Christos Gage & Paul Duffield* are working on an ***Absolution*** oneshot spotlighting the character Happy Kitty; look for it in 2012.

•***Gravel*** will return in 2012, courtesy of *Mike Wolfer*.

Dark Horse

•*Tim Seeley* is returning to the world of the mystical hero ***The Occultist*** for a four-issue series illustrated by *Victor Drujiniu*, who collaborated with Seeley on the original ***Occultist*** oneshot.



•Rage Against the Machine guitarist *Tom Morello* launches his comics project ***Orchid*** in October; the series stars a teenage prostitute who becomes a reluctant hero in a post-apocalyptic future.

•*P.C. Cast & Kristin Cast's* ***House of Night*** vampire novels are coming to comics in November, courtesy of the mother-daughter team in conjunction with writer *Kent Dallan*, artist *Joelle Jones*, and cover artist *Jenny Frison*. "Watching my characters and their world come to life with the fabulous team at Dark Horse has been fulfilling and fun," P.C. Cast said. "Fans are gonna love these comics!" Cast stressed that these were original stories, not adaptations; the ***House of Night*** miniseries takes place between scenes of the novel ***Betrayed.***

•*Brian Wood & Kristian Donaldson* launch a new three-part serial, ***The Massive,*** in ***Dark Horse Presents #8.*** The story follows a group of environmental activists on a quest for survival in the aftermath of an environmental disaster that has wreaked havoc on the entire planet, radically altering life.

•*David Lapham & Mike Norton* will adapt *Guillermo del Toro & Chuck Hogan's* novel ***The Strain*** to comics in December. The story begins when a commercial airliner lands in New York City, only to "go dark" on the runway; suspicions of a terrorist plot or a biological weapon turn out to be far less menacing than the truth—a vampire threat. "The chance to work with del Toro on *any* project was just too good to pass up" Lapham said. "But the fact that this is a vicious horror project, that I'm teamed with a great artist, and I've been given a great amount of creative freedom to interpret the novel, has made this a dream project."

DC

•*Grant Morrison* confirmed that ***Batman Incorporated*** would return in the next few months, adding that the upcoming arc would reveal the identity of the villain behind Leviathan, leading into a ***Batman: Leviathan*** miniseries. Morrison said that this series would wrap up the Batman storylines he's been working on "for the past six years—or the past six hundred years."

•*Dan Jurgens* said that ***Justice League International*** will have a changing lineup featuring heroes from all over the world as the team gains UN sponsorship.

•*Dan DiDio* said that DC *does* have plans for ***Shazam!*** and the Marvel family. "By the time the second wave [of new DCU titles] comes out, we should have something for the Marvel Family," DiDio said.

•Alas, DC has no current plans for Wally West in ***The Flash,*** preferring to focus on a single super-speed character instead.

•*Grant Morrison* said that a significant storyline in ***Action Comics*** (which "is Superman five years before current continuity") will focus on "how Superman got his costume and why he got it," and that he rejects "the whole idea being that a seventeen-year old guy whose mom sews his costume."

•Morrison also revealed that Superman's cape will be the blanket he was wrapped in as a child, leading Morrison to compare it to Linus's blanket from ***Peanuts***.

•Morrison's ***Action Comics*** will portray Lex Luthor as a young consultant for the government who is "kind of the good guy" in the book. He will, however, remain hairless.

•*J. Michael Straczynski* is deep into ***Superman: Earth One Volume Two,*** a graphic novel sequel to last year's hit. A major focus of the second graphic novel is Clark Kent's quest to find a life for himself in Metropolis, while the villain of this volume will be the Parasite.

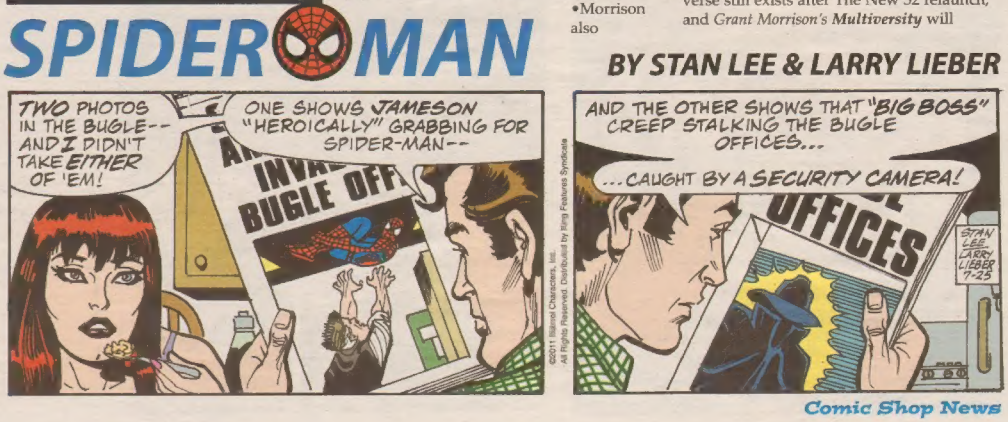
•*Grant Morrison* indicated that the New Gods would play a role in his upcoming ***Multiversity*** project, which readers may see in 2012.

•DC *did* consider doing major "farewell" issues in July and August (akin to *Alan Moore's* "Whatever Happened to the Man of Steel?" which predated *John Byrne's* Superman relaunch), but they decided that it would cheat fans in a way if they shook up the existing DC continuity, then took it all away in September with the New 52 launch.

•Steel will play a role in Morrison's first ***Action Comics*** story arc.

•Karen Starr will appear in ***Mr. Terrific,*** according to editor *Eddie Berganza*.

•*Dan DiDio* confirmed that the DCU multiverse still exists after The New 52 relaunch, and *Grant Morrison's* ***Multiversity*** will


SPIDER-MAN
BY STAN LEE & LARRY LIEBER
TWO PHOTOS IN THE BUGLE-- AND I DIDN'T TAKE EITHER OF 'EM!
ONE SHOWS JAMESON "HEROICALLY" GRABBING FOR SPIDER-MAN--
BUGLE OFF
AND THE OTHER SHOWS THAT "BIG BOSS" CREEP STALKING THE BUGLE OFFICES...
...CAUGHT BY A SECURITY CAMERA!
OFFICES
STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER 7-25
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EDITORS
Cliff Biggers
Ward Batty

Editorial Office
2770 Carillon Crossing
Marietta, GA 30066
cliffbig@comicshopnews.com

Business Office
3577-A Chamblee-Tucker Rd. #215
Atlanta, GA 30341
(770) 939-1364
wbatty@csnsider.com

www.csnsider.com
twitter.com/csnsider

explore that multiverse in a major way.

•*Geoff Johns* revealed that the mysterious female member of the Justice League depicted on some of the promotional images is "a reinvention of an old character, Lady Luck... She's going to get involved with the JLA after she attempted to buy Waynetech." The original Lady Luck was a Golden Age creation of none other than *Will Eisner.*

•*Dan DiDio* confirmed that the previous versions of the Teen Titans will remain a part of DCU history when the New 52 launch in September—which might make the upcoming *Marv Wolfman-George Pérez* ***Teen Titans: Games*** graphic novel more than a historic footnote!

•*Geoff Johns* announced that the ***Green Lantern*** spinoff ***Dex-Starr Valentine's Day Special*** is on the schedule for 2012.

•*Jim Lee* said that he has finished significant portions of both ***Dark Knight: Boy Wonder*** (the continuation of ***All-Star Batman & Robin***) and ***Batman: Europa,*** but both projects were put on hold to allow Lee to focus on ***Justice League.*** He's hoping that both will see print in 2012.

Vertigo/DC

•*Derek McCulloch & Colleen Doran* are working on a new Vertigo project, ***Gone to Amerikay.*** "It's a story about people emigrating to America from Ireland over the course of 140 years," McCulloch said. "It's a great big historical epic with a crime story and a ghost story and a couple of love stories and all kinds of things in it."

•Author *Les Klinger* said that he is working closely with *Neil Gaiman* on ***The Annotated Sandman;*** his annotation begins with Gaiman's scripts, then draws additional information from interviews with Gaiman. The art "is going to be larger than the ***Absolute Sandman*** version," Klinger said of the book, which will present the art for each

THAT HARDLY MEANS YOU'RE OUT OF A JOB.
YOU HAVEN'T MET MY COMPETITION, HONEY!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 7-26
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JUSTIN JORDAN TAZIO MOORE FELIPE SOBREIRO
NEW IDEAS. NEW TALENT. THE FUTURE OF COMICS IS
image

THE STRANGE TALENT OF LUTHER STRODE #1
IMAGE COMICS

When average nerd Luther Strode sends away for a bodybuilding course from an old comic book, the results are more than he could ever imagine. But his newfound strength and talents attract trouble in form of some very bad people...

THE FEARLESS #1
MARVEL COMICS

Acclaimed writing team of Matt Fraction, Cullen Bunn and Chris Yost, and powerhouse art team of Mark Bagley and Paul Pelletier continue the saga of the seven world-breaking, fear-tinged weapons of mass destruction... and the ensuing battle to control them all!

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issue on one page and the annotations on the facing half of the double-page spread.

•***Unwritten*** will ship twice a month for a ten-issue event, "Tommy Taylor and the War of Words," that begin in November. The arc will utilize an unusual structure; the first issue will be a story in the main narrative, followed by a .5 issue that will feature a one-off backstory. For instance, ***The Unwritten #31*** will be followed by #31.5, then #32, then #32.5, etc. Guest artists will do the honors on the .5 issues, while *Mike Carey & Peter Gross* will continue to do the honors on the main issues.

•*Bill Willingham* announced that he will write the initial arc of a ***Fables*** spinoff series ***Fairest;*** he'll be joined by artist *Phil Jimenez* on that arc, which will feature Sleeping Beauty. Future arcs will feature Cinderella by *Chris Roberson & Shawn McManus* and Rapunzel by *Lauren Beukes & Inaki Miranda.*

Willingham added that there would be another Christmas issue of ***Fables.*** "It might involve Rose Red being interviewed by three spirit-type characters on the night before Christmas," Willingham said.

Fantagraphics

•The long-unanswered questions regarding rights to the historic EC Comics titles are unanswered no more: Fantagraphics has landed the legendary property and will begin releasing EC collections in 2012. Rather than reprinting the material by title as has been done in the past by Russ Cochran and Gemstone, Fantagraphics will assemble the material based on creators, starting with ***Corpse on the Imjin & Other Stories*** collecting war stories written by *Harvey Kurtzman* and illustrated by Kurtzman, *Gene Colan, Russ Heath, & Joe Kubert,* among others; ***Came the Dawn & Other Stories*** collecting *Wally Wood* suspense tales, and as-yet-untitled collections of horror tales by *Jack Davis* and science fiction stories by *Al Williamson.* Fantagraphics plans to release four black-and-white EC collections each year.

•Underground comics fans will be thrilled to hear that Fantagraphics will release ***The Complete Zap Comics*** in the fall of 2012. The two-volume slipcased hardcover set will include work by *Robert Crumb, Spain Rodriguez, S. Clay Wilson, Gilbert Shelton, Rick Griffith,* and others.

IDW

•IDW is working on its first crossover project with DC, ***Star Trek/Legion of Super-Heroes,*** which debuts in October courtesy of writer *Chris Roberson* and artists *Jeffrey & Philip Moy.* The story will involve the classic Legion roster as seen in the pre-***Great Darkness Saga*** era and the Enterprise crew as they near the end of their five-year mission, after the three seasons of the original TV series. The story brings characters from both series into a changed reality that merges aspects of the 31st Century DCU and the Federation era of ***Star Trek.*** And yes, Spock and Brainiac 5 will meet...

•*Steve Niles & Bernie Wrightson* are revisiting *Mary Shelley's* horror classic in 2012 with the launch of the 13-part ***Frankenstein Alive, Alive!*** The series picks up where Shelley's tale left off. "This is an idea that's been rattling around somewhere in the back of my mind for a good many years," Wrightson said. "I mentioned it to Steve and we started talking. In about two minutes I realized that not only were we on the same page, we shared a vision. I'm very excited to see this finally happening. It's going to be lot of fun." Wrightson fans will be thrilled to hear that the artist is once again sharing his vision of ***Frankenstein*** with comic fans; his super-detailed fine-line illustrations for Shelley's novel are considered by many—including *Steve Niles*— to be some of his finest work. "The fact that I grew up worshipping Wrightson's ***Frankenstein*** and now I'm working on a sequel with him is mind-blowing," said Niles. "This is the project of a lifetime for me."

•***The Crow*** is coming back to comics, courtesy of IDW. The publisher will offer multiple series set in the world of *James O'Barr's* creation, including some based on the upcoming feature film. Additionally, IDW will offer collector's editions of all existing ***Crow*** comics. "I'm glad to see ***The Crow*** land at IDW," *Ted Adams,* the company's co-founder and chief executive officer, said. "I edited the last ***Crow*** series when I ran *Todd McFarlane's* comics in the late '90's, and we're looking forward to bringing this classic character back to the medium in 2012 at IDW."

•IDW will produce all-new Popeye tales in the tradition of *E.C.Segar* with the launch of their monthly ***Popeye*** series featuring Popeye, Olive Oyl, Bluto, Wimpy, Swee'Pea, and the rest of Popeye's supporting cast. "I grew up reading Segar's ***Popeye,*** and we'll be bringing his sensibility to our new series," IDW's *Ted Adams* said. "We'll be announcing our all-star creative team as SDCC, and plan to launch in early 2012."

•IDW has—along with Archie Comics—landed the rights to bring the rock group KISS back to comics. We've already told you about Archie's KISS story arc, and now we know that IDW will follow that up in 2012 with an all-new ongoing ***KISS*** series.

"Having done comics with *Gene Simmons* for a number of years already, I'm ecstatic to now be involved fully with the 'hottest band in the world,'" said *Chris Ryall,* IDW's Chief Creative Officer. "We've found a very unique way to launch our ***KISS*** comics, and have big plans for the series that we'll be revealing soon. I look forward to bringing KISS back to comics in a huge way!"

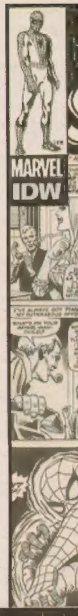
"I think this is the first time two comic publishers have shared a license at the same time, and I'm happy that setting this precedent are Archie and IDW. We both have very different audiences and distribution methods to reach our unique audiences, as well as both of us reaching traditional comics fans, too. We'll be able to reach all ages of the KISS Army in ways never before equaled. We're both ready to rock and roll (all night)."

•Art fans have three more amazing ***Artist's Editions*** to look forward to: ***Wally Wood's EC Stories Artist's Edition, Will Eisner's The Spirit Artist's Edition,*** and ***John Romita Sr.'s Amazing Spider-Man Artist's Edition,*** all edited by *Scott Dunbier* and reproduced in full color from the original art so as to show off the subtleties of the pencilling, the blue pencil art, and more. The Wood and Eisner books will be particularly impressive, since they will be reproduced in an amazing 15" x 22" size to fully show off the larger size of the original art in the Golden and early Silver Age.

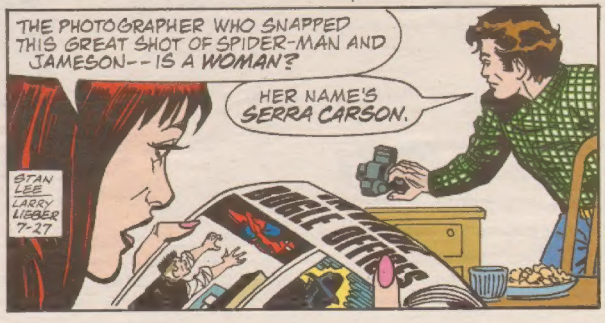
These books require a great deal of research and effort on Dunbier's part, since "every single page is shot from an original, " Dunbier said, which is why projects such as ***Barry Windsor-Smith's Conan*** and ***Neal Adams' X-Men*** are almost impossible to assemble, since the original art has been scattered among numerous collectors over the years.

Dunbier wasn't prepared to reveal which stories would be included in the ***John Romita Sr.'s Spider-Man*** and ***Will Eisner's The Spirit*** editions, but he did reiterate that all stories included in the book would be shot entirely from the original art.

Current plans call for the Wood



War is Heaven!
THE SHIP CAME DOWN FROM SPACE. IT CAME DOWN FROM THE STARS AND THE SILENT GULFS OF SPACE. IT WAS A NEW SHIP, THE ONLY ONE OF ITS KIND, IT HAD FIRE IN ITS BELLY AND MEN IN ITS BODY, AND IT MOVED WITH CLEAN SILENCE, FIERY AND HOT. A CROWD HAD GATHERED AT ITS NEW YORK LAUNCHING SITE AND SHOUTED AND WAVED THEIR HANDS UP INTO THE SUNLIGHT...AND THE ROCKET HAD JERKED UP, BLOOMED OUT GREAT FLOWERS OF HEAT AND COLOR, AND RUN AWAY INTO SPACE ON THE FIRST VOYAGE TO MARS! AND NOW, IT WAS DECELERATING WITH METAL EFFICIENCY IN THE UPPER ZONES OF MARS'S ATMOSPHERE...
NAVIGATOR LUSTIG, ARCHAEOLOGIST HINKSTON, AN CAPTAIN JOHN BLACK WATCHED MARS SWING UP UNDER THEM...
MARS! MARS! GOOD OLD MARS! HERE WE ARE!
GOOD OLD MARS!
WELL?
THE SHIP LANDED SOFTLY ON A LAWN OF GREEN GRASS. OUTSIDE, UPON THE LAWN, STOOD AN IRON DEER. FURTHER UP THE LAWN, A TALL, BROWN VICTORIAN HOUSE SAT IN THE QUIET SUNLIGHT. AN OLD SWING WHICH WAS HOOKED INTO THE PORCH CEILING SWUNG BACK AND FORTH, BACK AND FORTH, IN A LITTLE BREEZE...
WELL...WELL I'LL BE DARNED...
IT CAN'T BE... IT JUST CAN'T BE...
LORD!
ADAPTED FROM A STORY BY
RAY BRADBURY
wood.
COPYRIGHT, 1948, BY RAY BRADBURY


THE PHOTOGRAPHER WHO SNAPPED THIS GREAT SHOT OF SPIDER-MAN AND JAMESON--IS A WOMAN?
HER NAME'S SERRA CARSON.
STAN LEE
LARRY LIEBER
7-27
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book to appear later this year, ***Romita's Spider-Man*** in early 2012, and ***Eisner's The Spirit*** later in 2012. "You'll never see an ***Artist's Edition*** every month," Dunbier said. "It's not possible to maintain the quality level if you rush them out."

•*Chris Roberson & Rich Ellis* are working on ***Memorial,*** an expansive series of miniseries that begins in February 2012. Roberson described the project as "a cross between Doctor Who and Sandman by way of Miyazaki. If that doesn't appeal to you, there's something wrong with you."

•*Thom Zahler's* ***Love & Capes*** will return as a six-issue miniseries beginning in February, courtesy of IDW.

•November sees the release of *Chris Madden's* ***Jack Avarice: The Courier,*** which was described as "James Bond meets Austin Powers meets ***Lord of the Rings*** and ***Back to the Future*** and everything that's great and '80s and fun." The five-part series will ship weekly.

Image

•*Robert Kirkman* said that he's approaching his new Skybound Entertainment project ***Thief of Thieves*** more like a television series than a traditional comic—that is, rather than writing the series by himself, "it's going to be me plotting the series with a bunch of different writers taking it from there," similar to the way Dark Horse has done with its ***Buffy the Vampire Slayer Season Eight.*** The first arc will be written by *Nick Spencer.* The series focuses on a thief who sets out to turn his life around. However, since stealing is all he knows, he decides to steal only from other thieves.

•***Y—The Last Man*** creator *Brian K. Vaughan* is collaborating with ***Mystery Society*** artist *Fiona Staples* on a new Image project, ***Saga.*** The ongoing series, which launches in 2012, is about a family struggling to survive galactic war. Plans call for this to be a lengthy project, running more than fifty issues.

•*Robert Kirkman & Charlie Adlard* will launch a series of graphic novels under the overarching title ***Album;*** the first book will be ***Album One: The Passenger,*** which is "about a future in which we're still very much dependent on fossil fuels," and mankind has been forced to move into space on a quest for hydrocarbons.

•***MacGyver*** creator *Lee David Zlotoff* and ***Doctor Who*** writer *Tony Lee* join with artist *Becky Cloonan* to launch the new ***MacGyver*** five-part miniseries ***MacGyver: Fugitive Gauntlet*** next summer.

•*Jonathan Ross & Tommy Lee Edwards,* creators of ***Turf,*** are reuniting for ***Golden Age,*** an ongoing series about an old age home whose clientele is exclusively superheroes.

•*Ted McKeever* will launch his next project, ***Mongo,*** in early 2012. The comic will be printed in the larger "golden age format."

•*Jonathan Ross & David LaFuente* are working together on ***Home Run,*** a series that turns the Superman saga on its head: the star is a human baby who is sent to another planet.

•*Tim Seeley* is producing a crossover between his ***Hack/Slash*** and *Adam Green's* ***Hatchet*** films. The series, ***Hatchet/Slash,*** will pit ***Hack/Slash*** heroine Cassie Hack against ***Hatchet*** wielder Victor Crowley; the project will be written by *Benito Derron* and illustrated by *Ariel Zucker.*

•*Frank Cho* is the mastermind behind ***Guns and Dinos,*** a series that Cho describes as "what ***Jurassic Park*** should have been." The series focuses on scientists trapped in the era of dinosaurs, trying to survive until they can find a way to get home.

•Cho is also working with *Joe Keatinge* on ***Brutal,*** the tale of a female assassin that is, as the title indicates, very, very brutal.

•*Jonathan Hickman & Nicky Pitarra* are joining forces for ***The Manhattan Projects,*** an offbeat look at the atomic scientists of the 1940s.

•***Secret,*** by *Jonathan Hickman & Ryan Bodenheim,* is described by Hickman as "a corporate espionage thriller."

•*Howard Chaykin* is revisiting one of his most famous creations with ***Black Kiss II,*** a sequel to the erotic thriller that remains Chaykin's most controversial work to date.

Legendary

•*Frank Miller's* ***Holy Terror,*** which originally began as a Batman-vs.-Osama bin Laden graphic novel, will see print in September; the story pits a driven hero against the Muslim extremist terrorist responsible for a devastating attack on a major American city, and is obviously inspired by the events of 9/11. "These were my neighbors who were being attacked," Miller said, explaining why the project, a creative statement against terrorism and Al Qaeda, was so important to him

•*Matt Wagner & Simon Bisley* are working on ***The Tower Chronicles,*** a supernatural action-adventure series developed with Legendary's chairman/CEO *Thomas Tull* that focuses on a bounty hunter with a dark secret in his past; along witha team of high-tech mercenaries, he protects society from horrifying things that lurk in the shadows.

•*Paul Pope* is working with Legendary on ***PulpHope,*** a 200-page look at Pope's career, featuring many previously-unpublished pieces. This is an expanded and revamped edition of the book published in 2007 by Adhouse Books.

Marvel

•*J. Michael Straczynski* has finally turned in all the remaining scripts for ***The Twelve,*** and *Chris Weston* is illustrating the series; ***The Twelve #9*** is slated to ship in February.

MR. JAMESON? I'VE GOT A PHOTO OF SPIDER-MAN CATCHING A DANGEROUS SPEEDING DRIVER...
FORGET IT, PARKER...
STAN LEE
LARRY LIEBER
7-28
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•Deadpool will take on the Foolkiller in "Evil Deadpool," a story arc that will introduce a new characters made up of Deadpool's discarded body parts.
•November brings ***Villains for Hire***, a less-than-law-abiding take on the ***Heroes for Hire*** concept courtesy of *Dan Abnett & Andy Lanning*.

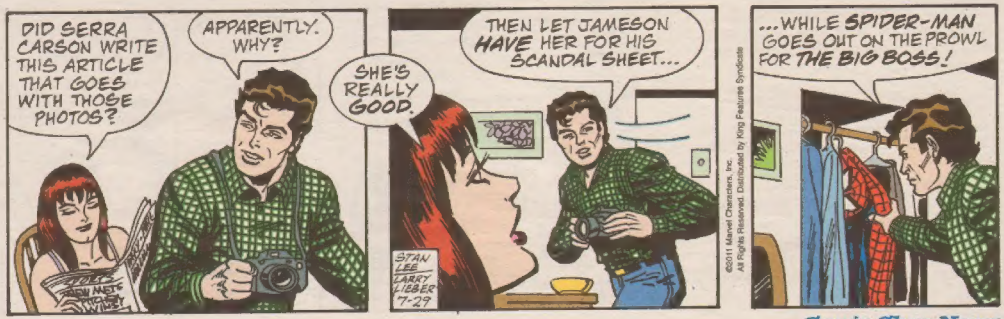
•With the Avengers cementing their position as Marvel's biggest franchise, it's no surprise that the publisher is working on a series of ***Avengers Origins*** oneshots that will include ***Ant-Man & The Wasp*** by *Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa & Stephanie Hans*; ***Luke Cage*** from *Mike Benson, Adam Glass, & Dalibor Talajic*; ***The Vision*** by *Kyle Higgins, Alec Siegel, & Stephane Perger*; ***Quicksilver & The Scarlet Witch*** written by *Sean McKeever*; and ***Thor*** written by *Katherine Immonen*.
•Is the Scarlet Spider making a return? If Marvel's convention image of his blue hoodie is any indication, that will be the case!
•*Peter David* said that ***X-Factor #230***, a ***Schism*** tie-in, "is one of my favorite scripts that I've ever turned in."
•*Ron Garney* is returning to ***Wolverine***.
•Marvel editor-in-chief *Axel Alonso* said that "there's a reason ***Fear Itself*** and ***Schism*** come to a conclusion the same month," but offered no specific info on the links between the two events.
•While there's no ***Runaways*** book on the schedule in the foreseeable future, the members of the team will be used throughout the Marvel Universe.
•***Cable Reborn*** is coming in December 2011, courtesy of *Jeph Loeb & Ed McGuinness*. "It's a real please for Ed and me to take a look Cable and determine how he will be reborn," Loeb said. "As you now, part of him didn't quite make it out of the last story... ***Cable Reborn*** is a big, big story that not only has ramifications for the X-Men, but for the Marvel Universe in general... I like to think of Cable as the Captain America of the X-Men."
•When asked if Deadpool would play a role in ***Cable Reborn***, Loeb hinted that it might happen, since *Ed McGuinness* has a memorable artistic history with the character.
•Marvel kicks off the next phase of its Point One Initiative in November with stories that will not only offer access points to new readers, but will also lay the groundwork for Marvel's next major crossover event in 2012.
•*Zeb Wells & Joe Madureira's* forthcoming ***Avenging Spider-Man*** series will team the webspinner with assorted heroes from the Marvel Universe in a series of fast-paced adventure tales.
•In next summer's ***Carnage USA***, *Zeb Wells & Clayton Crain* hope to recapture the spirit of the ***Maximum Carnage*** storyline form the 1990s, while surpassing it in terms of story quality.

•Marvel will use the ***Battle Scars*** branding for its post-event Marvel Universe titles, similar to what they did with ***Dark Reign*** and ***Heroic Age***. Among other things, ***Battle Scars*** will present a number of ***Shattered Heroes*** oneshots revealing the after-effects ***Fear Itself*** has had on the Marvel Universe. "To use a historical example from World War II, after VE Day, after VJ Day...what was the world like for those soldiers?" editor *Steve Wacker* said. "After putting our heroes through that gauntlet in ***Fear Itself***, we didn't want to just go 'And now it's superhero time again!'"
•***The Defenders*** return in December, courtesy of *Matt Fraction & Terry Dodson*. The group will include Dr. Strange, Sub-Mariner, Silver Surfer, Iron Fist, and the Red She-Hulk, with other members to be revealed as the story progresses. "What Matt has built here is a book about the nature of heroism," editor *Steve Wacker* said, saying the Defenders are tasked at taking on all the big threats from mystical threats to medical ones. "There's something about these characters, whether they're confronted by fury or evil, continue to put one foot in front of the other...and if you can put one foot in front of the other, you can live forever."
•What happens to the hammers introduced in ***Fear Itself*** once the event miniseries is over? That 's the focus of ***The Fearless***, a biweekly miniseries by *Matt Fraction, Mark Bagley, Chris Yost, Cullen Bunn, & Paul Pelletier*. "It's like a world tour of the Marvel Universe post-***Fear Itself***," Yost said. (And is it any surprise that, when there's a need for a fan-favorite artist who can deliver a biweekly book, Marvel would turn to *Mark Bagley*, the illustrator who made history with his lengthy run on ***Ultimate Spider-Man*** with *Brian Bendis* and who kept DC's weekly ***Trinity*** on schedule for its entire 52-issue run?)
•*Jason Aaron & Marc Silvestri* relaunch ***Incredible Hulk*** in October; the first arc, "Hulk Asunder," will focus on the conflict between the personalities of the Hulk and Bruce Banner.

2011 Eisner Award Winners Announced

The 2011 Eisner winners were announced on Friday, July 22nd, at San Diego Comic-Con—and for the first time, one of the categories resulted in a tie, so there are two winners listed for Best Graphic Novel. Here's the full list of winners:

•**Best Short Story**- "Post Mortem," by *Greg Rucka & Michael Lark*, in ***I Am an Avenger #2*** (Marvel)
•**Best Single Issue (or One-Shot)** - ***Hellboy: Double Feature of Evil***, by *Mike Mignola & Richard Corben* (Dark Horse)
•**Best Continuing Series** - ***Chew***, by *John Layman & Rob Guillory* (Image)
•**Best Limited Series** - ***Daytripper***, by *Fábio Moon and Gabriel Bá* (Vertigo/DC)
•**Best New Series** - ***American Vampire***, by *Scott Snyder, Stephen King, & Rafael Albuquerque* (Vertigo/DC)
•**Best Publication for Kids** - ***Tiny Titans***, by *Art Baltazar & Franco* (DC)
•**Best Publication for Teens** - ***Smile***, by *Raina Telgemeier* (Scholastic Graphix)
•**Best Humor Publication** - ***I Thought You Would Be Funnier***, by *Shannon Wheeler* (BOOM!)
•**Best Anthology** - ***Mouse Guard: Legends of the Guard***, edited by *Paul Morrissey & David Petersen* (Archaia)
•**Best Digital Comic** - ***Abominable Charles Christopher***, by *Karl Kerschl*, www.abominable.cc
•**Best Reality-Based Work** - ***It Was the War of the Trenches***, by *Jacques Tardi* (Fantagraphics)
•**Best Graphic Album—New - TIE** - ***Return of the Dapper Men***, by *Jim McCann & Janet Lee* (Archaia), and ***Wilson***, by *Daniel Clowes* (Drawn & Quarterly)
•**Best Graphic Album—Reprint** - ***Wednesday Comics***, edited by *Mark Chiarello* (DC)
•**Best Adaptation from Another Work** - ***The Marvelous Land of Oz***, by *L. Frank Baum*, adapted by *Eric Shanower & Skottie Young* (Marvel)
•**Best Archival Collection/Project—Strips** - ***Archie: The Complete Daily Newspaper Strips, 1946–1948***, by *Bob Montana*, edited by *Greg Goldstein* (IDW)
•**Best Archival Collection/Project—Comic Books** - ***Dave Stevens' The Rocketeer Artist's Edition***, edited by *Scott Dunbier* (IDW)
•**Best U.S. Edition of International Material** - ***It Was the War of the Trenches***, by *Jacques Tardi* (Fantagraphics)
•**Best U.S. Edition of International Material—Asia** - ***Naoki Urasawa's 20th Century Boys***, by *Naoki Urasawa* (VIZ Media)
•**Best Writer** - *Joe Hill*, ***Locke & Key*** (IDW)
•**Best Writer/Artist** - *Darwyn Cooke*, ***Richard Stark's Parker: The Outfit*** (IDW)
•**Best Penciller/Inker or Penciller/Inker Team** - *Skottie Young*, ***The Marvelous Land of Oz*** (Marvel)
•**Best Painter/Multimedia Artist (Interior Art)** - *Juanjo Guarnido*, ***Blacksad*** (Dark Horse)
•**Best Cover Artist** - *Mike Mignola*, ***Hellboy, Baltimore: The Plague Ships*** (Dark Horse)
•**Best Coloring** - *Dave Stewart*, ***Hellboy, BPRD, Baltimore, Let Me In*** (Dark Horse); ***Detective Comics*** (DC); ***Neil Young's Greendale, Daytripper, Joe the Barbarian*** (Vertigo/DC)
•**Best Lettering** - *Todd Klein*, ***Fables, The Unwritten, Joe the Barbarian, iZombie*** (Vertigo/DC); ***Tom Strong and the Robots of Doom*** (WildStorm/DC); ***SHIELD*** (Marvel); ***Driver for the Dead*** (Radical)
•**Best Comics-Related Periodical/Journalism** - ***Comic Book Resources***, produced by *Jonah Weiland* (www.comicbookresources.com)
•**Best Comics-Related Book** - ***75 Years of DC Comics: The Art of Modern Mythmaking***, by *Paul Levitz* (Taschen)
•**Best Publication Design** - ***Dave Stevens' The Rocketeer Artist's Edition***, designed by *Randall Dahlk* (IDW)
•**Hall of Fame (Judges' Choice)** - *Ernie Bushmiller, Jack Jackson, Martin Nodell, Lynd Ward*. **(Elected)** *Mort Drucker, Harvey Pekar, Roy Thomas, Marv Wolfman*.
•**Russ Manning Promising Newcomer**


DID SERRA CARSON WRITE THIS ARTICLE THAT GOES WITH THOSE PHOTOS?
APPARENTLY. WHY?
SHE'S REALLY GOOD.
THEN LET JAMESON HAVE HER FOR HIS SCANDAL SHEET...
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 7-27
...WHILE SPIDER-MAN GOES OUT ON THE PROWL FOR THE BIG BOSS!
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Award - *Nate Simpson*
• Bob Clampett Humanitarian Award - *Patrick McDonnell*
• Bill Finger Excellence in Comic Book Writing Award - *Del Connell, Bob Haney*

Coming Comics—Marvel in October

In the aftermath of ***Fear Itself,*** the Avengers once again reinvent themselves in ***Avengers #18*** by *Brian Bendis & Daniel Acuna.*

Howard Chaykin's atomic age Avengers return in their own five-part limited series as *Howard Chaykin* launches ***Avengers 1959 #1.***

The Academy loses one student and one teacher... but who? And how? Find out in ***Avengers Academy #20,*** a ***Fear Itself*** tie-in by *Christos Gage & Tom Raney.*

Hawkeye is the focus of ***Avengers Solo #1,*** as *Jen Van Meter, Jim McCann, & Roger Robinson* pit the Avenging Archer against the Trapster.

Tony Stark returns from the depths with a last-chance arsenal that will transform the Avengers from Earth's Mightiest Heroes into Earth's Last Hope in ***Fear Itself #7,*** the miniseries finale by *Matt Fraction & Stuart Immonen.*

After rooting out a shadowy government conspiracy Deadpool and Bob set out to stop it...and totally screw it up. Now they're the world's most wanted terrorists. How do you stay alive, stay sane and clear your name when you've got the entire world hunting you down and saying horrible things about you on TV? Find out in ***Deadpool MAX II #1*** by *David Lapham & Kyle Baker.*

What happens to the hammers in the aftermath of ***Fear Itself?*** Find out in ***The Fearless,*** a biweekly twelve-parter by *Matt Fraction, Cullen Bunn, Chris Yost, Mark Bagley, & Paul Pelletier.*

The all new Ghost Rider goes toe to toe with Johnny Blaze in ***Ghost Rider #4*** by *Rob Williams & Matthew Clark.*

A ghost from General Ross's past has resurfaced, embroiled in a dangerous war in the Middle East. Red Hulk goes off the grid on an unsanctioned mission that puts him at direct odds with the Secret Avengers and Steve Rogers in "Hulk of Arabia," *Jeff Parker & Patrick Zircher's* story arc that launches in ***Hulk #42.***

Jason Aaron & Marc Silvestri pit the personalities of Bruce Banner and the Hulk against one another in ***Incredible Hulk #1.***

Peter David & Luke Ross join forces for ***John Carter of Mars: World of Mars,*** a five-part official prequel to the upcoming Walt Disney Pictures film. Dejah Thoris faces off against malicious Sab Than, would-be ruler of Zodanga, who sees kidnapping the princess of Mars as a short-cut to winning the thousand year war between his people and her city of Helium. Meanwhile Tars Tarkas is not yet the leader of his people, but instead an unambitious warrior who is caught between the desires of the female he loves and his best friend who needs Tars's help to become Jeddak of the Tharks... assuming that his ambitions don't kill them all.

Elsa Bloodstone's hunt for a mysterious serial killer leads to a monstrous underground city. Morbius the Living Vampire, Werewolf by Night, the Living Mummy and Manphibian have news for her, though: the monsters are innocent, and the real killer is so horrifying that even the monsters are concerned! Find out who it is in ***Legion of Monsters #1*** by *Dennis Hopeless & Juan Do.*

What chance do Misty Knight's rag-tag band of street heroes have keeping the wild hordes of infected from storming out of Manhattan… especially when the team members themselves are victims of the plague? Find out in ***Spider-Island: Heroes for Hire #12*** by *Dan Abnett, Andy Lanning, & Kyle Hotz.*

Marvel spotlights some of its most bloodthirsty characters in ***Vampires: The Marvel Undead,*** a Who's Who special.

In recognition of the twentieth anniversary of the best-selling comic of all time, Marvel presents a fully recolored ***X-Men #1 20th Anniversary Edition,*** re-presenting *Chris Claremont & Jim Lee's* landmark issue with new coloring by Thomas Mason.

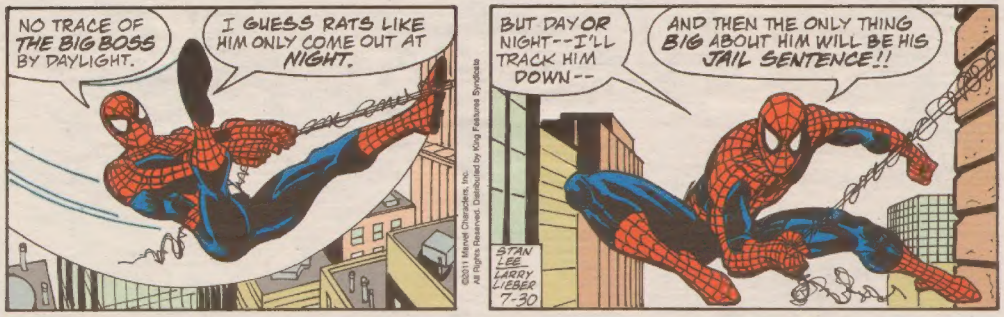
The split that everyone has been waiting for finally comes to pass in ***X-Men: Schism #5*** by *Jason Aaron & Adam Kubert,* which leads into ***X-Men: ReGenesis #1*** by *Kieron Gillen & Billy Tan,* where mutants decide which team to side with.

That, in turn, paves the way for ***Wolverine & the X-Men #1*** by *Jason Aaron & Chris Bachalo,* in which Wolverine takes one half of the X-Men back to Westchester to start over again.

Marvel collected editions include:

- ***Anita Blake, Vampire Hunter: Guilty Pleasures Ultimate Collection TP,*** collecting ***Guilty Pleasures #s 1-12.***
- ***Avengers/X-Men: BloodTies Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Avengers #s 368-369, X-Men #26, Uncanny X-Men #307,*** and more.
- ***Daken: Dark Wolverine—Big Break Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Dark Wolverine #s 9.1 & 10-12.***
- ***Dr. Strange: Strange Tales TP,*** collecting ***Strange Tales (1987) #s 1-19.***
- ***Fantastic Four by Jonathan Hickman Volume 4 TP,*** collecting ***FF #s 583-588.***
- ***Fantastic Four by Waid & Wieringo Ultimate Collection Book 3 TP,*** collecting ***FF #s 503-513.***
- ***Hulk: World War Hulks HC,*** collecting ***Fall of the Hulks:Gamma*** and ***Hulk #s 19-24.***
- ***Invincible Iron Man Volume 2 HC,*** collecting ***Invincible Iron Man #s 20-33.***
- ***Iron Age HC,*** collecting the five-part alternative timeline miniseries.
- ***Marvel Firsts: The 1960s TP,*** a massive 488-page compendium that includes the first issues of ***Fantastic Four, Incredible Hulk, Avengers, X-Men, Daredevil, Ghost Rider, Sgt. Fury,*** and many more, as well as the first appearances of Spider-Man, Ant-Man, Thor, Iron Man, and others.
- ***Marvel Masterworks: Captain Marvel Volume 4 HC,*** collecting ***Captain Marvel #s 34-46.***
- ***Marvel Masterworks: Atlas Era Tales to Astonish Volume 4 HC,*** collecting ***Tales ot Astonish #s 31-34*** and backup tales from ***TtA #s 35-51 & 54.***
- ***New Mutants: Unfinished Business Premiere HC,*** collecting ***New Mutants #s 25-28.***
- ***New Warriors Classic Volume 3 TP,*** collecting ***New Warriors #s 11-17*** and more.
- ***PunisherMAX: Frank Premiere HC,*** collecting ***PunisherMAX #s 12-16.***
- ***SHIELD: Architects of Forever TP,*** collecting ***SHIELD #s 1-6*** and more.
- ***Spider-Man: The Complete Ben Reilly Epic Book 2 TP,*** collecting ***Amazing Spider-Man #s 407-408, Sensational Spider-Man #1, Spectacular Spider-Man # 230, Spider-Man #s 64-65,*** and much more.
- ***Spider-Man: Deadly Foes of Spider-Man TP,*** collecting the four-part miniseries as well as the four-part ***Lethal Foes of Spider-Man.***
- ***Spider-Man: Masques Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Spider-Man #s 6-7, 13-14, & 16*** and ***X-Force #4*** by *Todd McFarlane, Rob Liefeld, and Fabian Nicieza.*
- ***Thor/Iron Man: God Complex TP,*** collecting the four-part miniseries.
- ***Ultimate Comics Avengers: Blade Vs. the Avengers TP,*** collecting ***Ultimate Avengers #s 1-6.***
- ***Ultimate Comics Spider-Man: Death of Spider-Man Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Ultimate Spider-Man #s 156-160.***
- ***Ultimate Comics X: Origins Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Ultimate X #s 1-5.***
- ***Uncanny X-Force Volume 1: The Apocalypse Solution TP,*** collecting ***Uncanny X-Force #s 1-4*** and more.
- ***Wolverine: Wolverine's Revenge Premiere HC,*** collecting ***Wolverine #s 10-14.***

- ***X-Factor: Hard Labor Premiere HC,*** collecting ***X-Factor #s 220-224.***
- ***X-Force Volume 2 HC,*** collecting ***X-Force #s 12-13, 17-20, Annual #1,*** and more.
- ***X-Men by Chris Claremont & Jim Lee Omnibus Volume 2 HC,*** collecting ***Uncanny X-Men #s 273-280, X-Men #s 1-9,*** and much more.
- ***X-Men Legacy: Lost Legions Premiere HC,*** collecting ***X-Men Legacy #s 250-253.***


NO TRACE OF THE BIG BOSS BY DAYLIGHT.
I GUESS RATS LIKE HIM ONLY COME OUT AT NIGHT.
BUT DAY OR NIGHT--I'LL TRACK HIM DOWN--
AND THEN THE ONLY THING BIG ABOUT HIM WILL BE HIS JAIL SENTENCE!!
STAN LEE LARRY LIEBER 7-30
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